Shiranui Kitanroku

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chapter 2

紐解く怪奇の足音
しらぬい奇譚録
TABOO CHILD
『其の弐』
Shiranui Kitanroku
稲井カオル

SFX: CICADA CRY
ミーンミーン
...AH, NOZOMI-CHAN
ARE YOU READING A SCARY BOOK AGAIN?
BELOW, SCARY STORIES THAT HAVE REALLY OCCURED
・怪談シリーズ③・
本当にあった こわい話
IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT? I LOVE THEM!

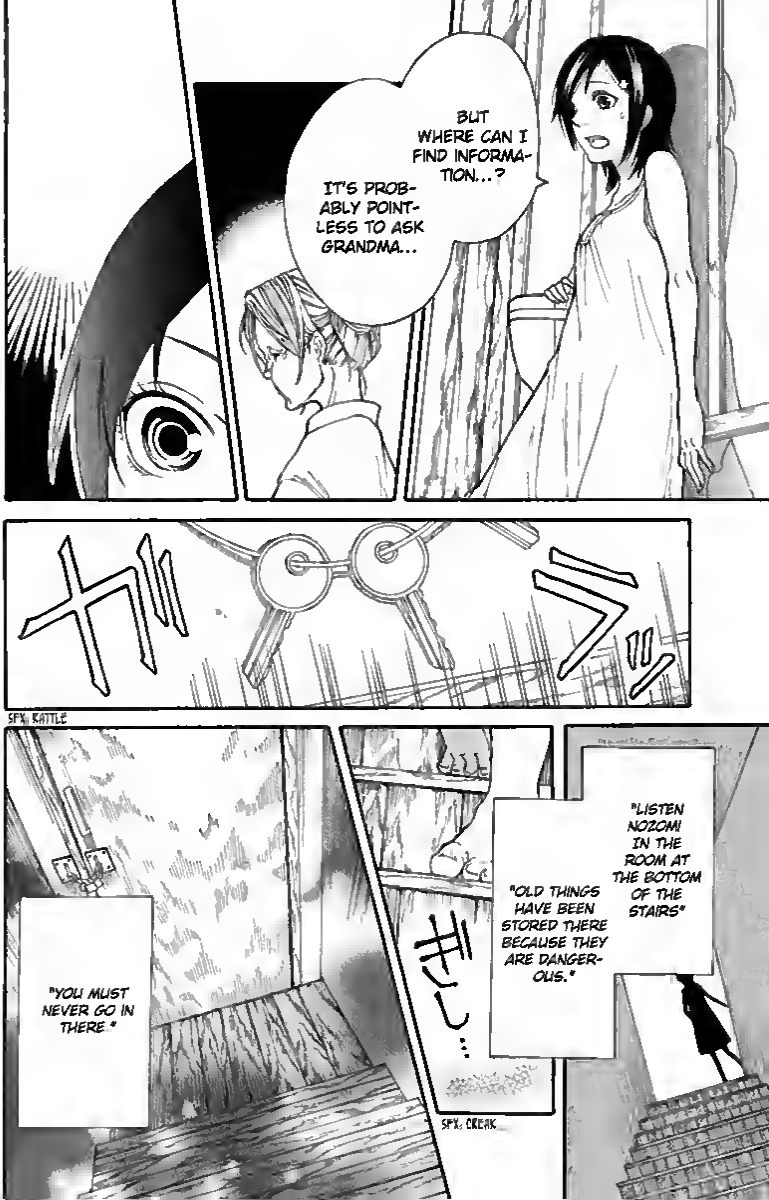
EH.. REALLY?
I'M GOING TO INVESTI-GATE A SCARY STORY AROUND THESE PARTS
FOR MY SUMMER HOLIDAY HOMEWORK
BUT THE STORIES IN BOOKS AREN'T VERY GOOD.
THEY AREN'T SCARY AT ALL...
HEY, GRANDMA
DO YOU KNOW ANY SCARY STORIES AROUND HERE?

OKAY.
DON'T BE STUPID AND HURRY UP AND EAT.
LIKE A DEMON APPEARING IN THIS HOUSE OR SOMETHING!
...EXCUSE ME
IS THIS PLACE GOTAKI VILLAGE?
I WONDER IF THERE REALLY AREN'T ANY SCARY STORIES AROUND HERE.
AH...

WHY IS THIS PERSON DRESSED LIKE THAT EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUMMER?
Y...YES.
AH... I'M NO ONE SUSPICIOUS.

EH...?!
ACTUALLY, I'M A RESEARCHER OF MYSTERIOUS STORIES AND FOLKLORE.
WHAT IS THIS STORY ABOUT?
I HEARD THAT THIS VILLAGE HAS A STRANGE CUSTOM CALLED "TABOO CHILD".

THE "CERTAIN CONDITION" IS...?
WHEN A CHILD OF CERTAIN CONDITIONS IS BORN
THAT CHILD IS LABELLED A BAD OMEN, A *TABOO CHILD".
SPENDING THEIR WHOLE LIFE CONCEALED IN A PRISON ROOM.
TLN *A TABOO CHILD
THAT IS...
IT'S DEFINITELY GOING TO BE INTERESTING IF I INVESTIGATE IT!
SFX: RATTLE
...I'VE JUST HEARD AN INCREDIBLE STORY!


BUT WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION...?
IT'S PROBABLY POINTLESS TO ASK GRANDMA...
SFX: RATTLE
"LISTEN NOZOMI IN THE ROOM AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS"
"OLD THINGS HAVE BEEN STORED THERE BECAUSE THEY ARE DANGEROUS."
"YOU MUST NEVER GO IN THERE."
SFX: CREAK

IF IT'S THIS ROOM
THERE MIGHT BE AN OLD BOOK OR SOMETHING...
カチャ…
SFX: KA-CHAK
SFX: CREAK
SFX: JUMP
WAH, STINKS OF MOLD...
AND IT'S DAMP AND CLAMMY.
I CAN'T SEE REALLY WELL SINCE IT'S SO DIM.
SOMEONE'S HERE?!
WHO'S THERE?!

OH... IT'S JUST A MIRROR..

SFX: FLUMP FLOMP
WHAT?
AHHHHH-HHHH?!

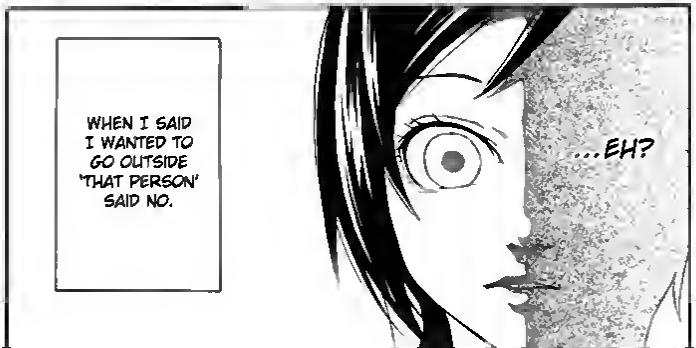
SFX: FLOMP
HM?!

IF SOMEONE HAD TO STAY HERE FOR A LONG TIME, THEY WOULD PROBABLY BECOME CRAZY
I'D BETTER FIND SOMETHING QUICK AND GO BACK. .
EEP?!
WHAT'S GOING ON ALREADY..?
SFX THWACK
HM?
WHAT'S THIS NOTEBOOK?
SFX RUSTLE
WOW, WHAT MESSY HANDWRITING.
UM "I FOUND A PENCIL "
"I WILL KEEP A DIARY"..?

TLN: THIS IS NOT A SPELLING MISTAKE. 'HEAR' IS USED TO SHOW THAT THE PERSON WRITING THE DIARY CAN'T WRITE REALLY WELL - USING ALL HIRAGANA AND USING THE WRONG CHARACTERS.

'THAT PERSON' ALWAYS GIVES ME FOOD.
I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANOTHER PERSON
I AM HEAR*.
ALWAYS.
DOES THIS MEAN THEY ARE KEEPING A DIARY BECAUSE THEY FOUND A PENCIL?
WHOSE NOTE-BOOK IS THIS?

WORDS: ALWAYS



THEY SAY TABOO CHILDREN ARE NOT ALLOWED.

I HAVE NOTHING TO DO SO
I AM RE-MEMBERING CHARAC-TERS WITH A BOOK.
BUT 'THAT PERSON' SAID
BECAUSE I CAN'T GO OUTSIDE
LEARNING IS POINTLESS.
AMAZING THIS IS THE REAL...

TODAY THAT PERSON GAVE ME A BOOK.
SFX: FLIP
I'VE FOUND AN INCREDIBLE THING...
ISN'T THIS A PRETTY VALUABLE DOCUMENT?!
MY SUMMER HOMEWORK COULD BE FINISHED WITH JUST THIS...
OUTSIDE HAS A LOT OF FUN THINGS.
FRIENDS. SCHOOL. STUDYING.
STUDYING AT SCHOOL SEEMS FUN.
STUDYING? THEN SWITCH PLACES WITH ME...

TODAY I HEARD 'HER' VOICE.
'HER'?
I KNOW.
BEING UNABLE TO GO OUTSIDE
BEING CALLED A TABOO CHILD IS ALL BECAUSE OF 'HER'.
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ME AND HER?
I WANT TO BE OUTSIDE TOO.
I WANT TO GO OUTSIDE. I WANT TO GO OUTSIDE. WANT TO. GO OUT. WANT TO GO. OUTSIDE.
WANT TO GO OUT.
WANT TO GO OUT.
WANT TO GO OUT.
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WANT TO GO OUT.

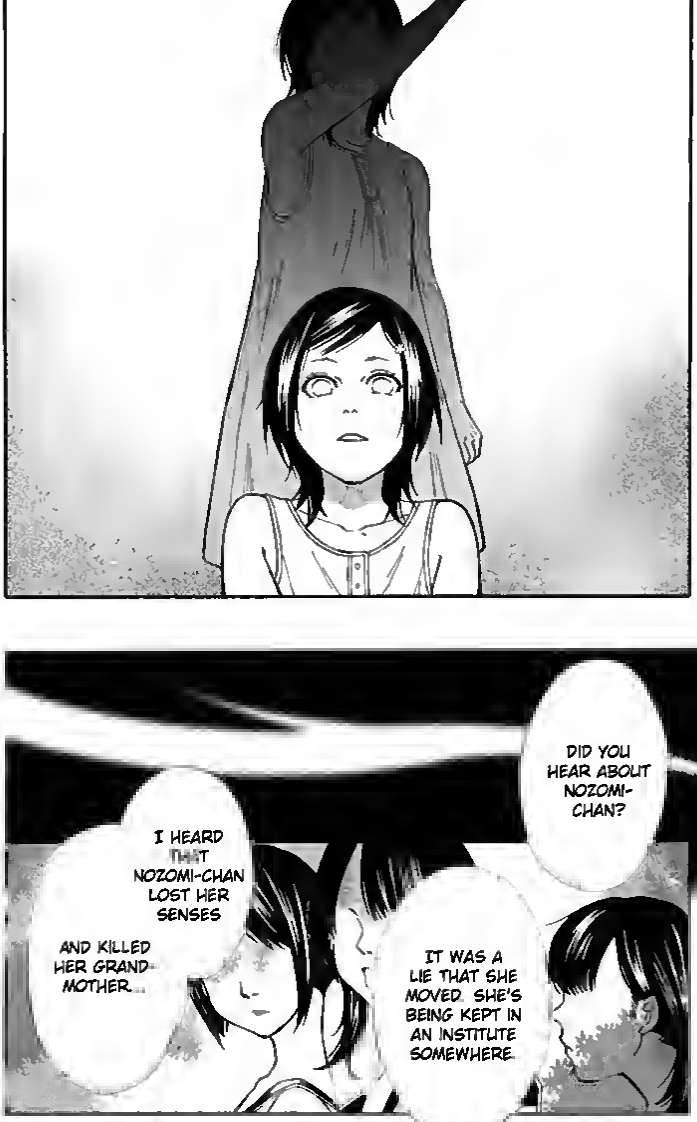
WORDS: WANT TO GO OUT WANT TO GO OUT WANT TO GO OUT WANT TO GO OUT WANT TO GO OUT WANT TO GO OUT PLEASE LET ME OUT OF HERE LET ME OUT LET ME OUT LET ME OUT LET ME OUT LET ME OUT LET ME OUT LET ME OUT OF HERE LET ME OUT OF HERE

出たい。出たい。出たい。

THIS GIVES OFF A VERY BAD VIBE...
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T USE THIS AFTERALL...
カラン
AH! MY CLIP...
SFX: CLANG
SERIOUSLY... MIRROR MIRROR....
GRANDMA IS GOING TO COME HOME SOON.
I HAVE TO GET BACK QUICK...

"WHO'S THERE?!"
"OH... IT'S JUST A MIRROR."
...THAT WASN'T A MIRROR.

BEING A TWIN.
"TABOO CHILD" THE CONDITION IS
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A REALLY SAD STORY?
THE OTHER IS RAISED NORMALLY.
DUE TO A BASELESS SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEF ONE TWIN IS ISOLATED.
SOMEONE IS COMING NEAR THIS ROOM
IF IT IS 'HER'
I WILL
IT IS NOT 'THAT PERSON'.
IT MIGHT BE 'HER'.


DID YOU HEAR ABOUT NOZOMI-CHAN?
I HEARD THAT NOZOMI-CHAN LOST HER SENSES AND KILLED HER GRAND-MOTHER...
IT WAS A LIE THAT SHE MOVED. SHE'S BEING KEPT IN AN INSTITUTE SOMEWHERE.

THEY FOUND HER ALL SCATTERED IN THE ROOM UNDERGROUND.
SHE WAS CUT INTO SUCH SMALL PIECES SHE DIDN'T LOOK HUMAN ANYMORE
WHOA. DISGUSTING...
BUT
I HEARD THAT WHEN THEY LOOKED CLOSER THE REMAINS WAS THE AMOUNT OF TWO PEOPLE.
TWO PEOPLE?
BUT THAT HOUSE ONLY HAD NOZOMI-CHAN AND HER GRANDMA RIGHT?
WHO ELSE WAS THERE?

SFX: HELP ME

WHETHER THE PRACTICE WAS BORN FROM ILL OMENS OR
WHETHER THE PRAC-TICE WAS THE CAUSE OF ILL OMENS
...AT ANY RATE

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A REALLY SAD STORY?
To be continued...